Unwanted phone calls

†1907. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ Will the Minister, of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that mobile phone subscribers are facing a lot of problems due to the unwanted phone calls;

(b) whether the Supreme Court has also issued any guidelines to provide relief to the subscibers in this regard; and

(c) if so, the action being taken by Government to ensure the observance of the said guidelines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Safeguarding customers' phone numbers

1908. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any concrete steps have been taken in safeguarding the customers' phone numbers;

(b) whether any guidelines have been issued in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a)to(d): Any customer can direct the Service Provider not to print his telephone number in the Directory. However, there is no bar in ascertaining telephone number from the Directory Inquiry Service of the Service Provider. Further,

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

instructions have been issued to Service Providers not to extend Calling Line Identification Restriction (CLIR) facility to its subscribers normally.

Mobile services on Indo-Nepal border

†1909. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that mobile service has been installed and functioning since last few years in Raxaul situated on Indo-Nepal border in Bihar;

(b) whether it is also a fact that it has been decided to deprive Jai Nagar, Laukaha, Laukahi, Birpur, Jagwani and Farbeesganj cities situated on Indo-Nepal border from mobile services; and

(c) if so, the justification and complete details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As per licence conditions, Bharat Sanchar Nigar Limited is not licensed to provide cellular mobile service in the 10 km. buffer zone to be maintained along the international borders. All the towns *viz.* Jai Nagar, Laukaha, laukahi, Birpur, Jagwani and Farbeesganj fall in the buffer zone.

IT software export from Tamil Nadu

1910. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the large potential of IT industry in Tamil Nadu considering its exports of software;

(b) if so, whether it is proposed to assist Tamil Nadu Government in setting up of IT Parks in Coimbatore and Madurai;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.